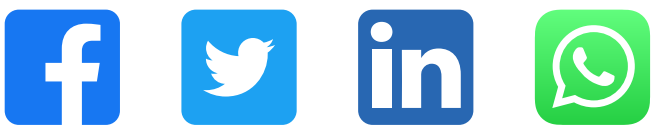


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# Soldiers claim killing 20 IPOB fighters in Imo, destroy 50 hideouts

11th March 2024



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From Molly Kilete, Abuja

The Defence Headquarters (DHQ) said personnel of the Armed Forces, Department of State Services (DSS), Nigeria Police Force (NPF) and the Nigeria Security and Civil Defence Corps (NSCDC) have killed 20 Indigenous People of Biafra (IPOB), fighters in the Orsu Local Government Area of Imo State.

Director, Defence Media Operations (DMO), Major General Edward Buba, who made the disclosure, said in the joint operation conducted by the military and the security agencies on March 7, the security operatives destroyed 50 of their camps. He said the operation was the second conducted in the same local government since the beginning of the month and the third in the state.



Buba, in a statement, listed the affected camps to include the IPOB’s Supreme Headquarters, Command and Control Centre, and Military Council Headquarters.

Giving an update on operations conducted within the period under review, Gen. Buba, said: “On 7 March 2024, the combined troops of Operation UDO KA with Nigeria Police, Department of State Security Service and Nigeria Security and Civil Defence Corps conducted a raid/clearance operations to the IPOB/ESN violent extremists/terrorists in Mother Valley, Orsu LGA of Imo State. The team cleared about 50 IPOB/ESN hideouts in the valley, including terrorists’ Supreme Headquarters and their Command and Control Centre as well as its Military Council Headquarters.

“Troops also cleared Buteuzor’s hideout/residence office, logistics base, temple and shrine. The hideouts were well concealed with foliage that afforded the criminals cover from air surveillance, in order to prevent monitoring and detection.

a d v e r t i s e m e n t

“The valley had sufficient power supply for the camps. The terrorist hibernating there reared animals and also owned farms, in order to be self-sustaining to live and fight. During the operations, troops also encountered several command IEDs and ditches along the axis to the camp.

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“All were detonated and ditches covered with excavators before reaching the camp. The location is identified to be the supreme headquarters, command and control centre as well as the military council headquarters of IPOB/ESN.

“During the operations, troops made contact with terrorists. Following a fire fight, troops neutralised 20 terrorists and recovered several quantities of assorted weapons such as G3 rifles, AK47 rifles, auto pump action guns, double barrel guns, locally made pistols and RPG bombs.

“Troops also recovered assorted ammunition which include 226 rounds of 7.62mm special ammo, 216 rounds of 7.62mm NATO, 172 live cartridges, 4 AK47 magazines and 3 G3 magazines. Other items recovered include: several quantities of IEDs (OGBUNIGWE), POS devices, baofeng radios, mobile phones, handheld IEDs, CCTV cameras, inverter and batteries. Additional items include Biafra flags, amongst others.

“Troops destroyed all camps, hideouts and shrines in the location. The location was also littered with shallow graves indicative of idol worshipping and ritual killings.

“The ritual killings at the camp accounts for the several cases of missing persons in the region. The recovered items are being processed and analysed for their intelligence value.

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Nevertheless, troops are sustaining the momentum and going in pursuit of the terrorists and their cohorts, dislodging them from their enclaves”.



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